

REMARKS

The applicant has carefully considered the official action and the references it cites. In the official action, claims 1-41 were rejected as anticipated by Osawa and claims 42-51 were rejected as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. By way of the foregoing amendments, claims 42-51 have been cancelled and claims 52-54 have been added, leaving claims 1-41 and 52-54 pending in the application.

Independent claim 1 recites an encoder that calculates an entropy value associated with at least a portion of a signal and encodes the signal to include data representative of the calculated entropy value. None of the cited references discloses or suggests encoding a signal to include data representative of an entropy value as recited in independent claim 1. On the contrary, Osawa merely teaches that an entropy value may be used to periodically trigger a recalculation of a cumulative approximate probability (i.e., $Q[k]$), which is used to vary the adaptation rate of an encoder/decoder. See col. 3, lines 8-13 and col. 6, lines 55-60. Osawa is completely devoid of any teaching or suggestion that data representative of an entropy value should be encoded in a signal as recited in independent claim 1. The remaining references Sonohara and Sonohara et al. are similarly deficient.

Because Osawa does not disclose each and every element set forth in independent claim 1, this claim cannot be anticipated thereby. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 and claims 2-10 dependent thereon are now in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 11 recites a decoder that decodes a signal to read an entropy code from the signal. None of the cited references teaches or suggests reading entropy codes from a signal as recited in independent claim 11. On the contrary, as set forth above, Osawa merely teaches that an entropy value may be used to vary the adaptation rate of an encoder/decoder.

Accordingly, the applicant submits that independent claim 11 and claims 12-21 dependent thereon cannot be anticipated by Osawa and, thus, are now in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims 22-41 and 52-54 are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above. Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, the applicant submits that all of the claims pending in the instant application are now in condition for allowance.


Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

If there are any remaining issues in this application, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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